



**GREATER LAWNDALE**

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

# NEWS NOTES

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FORM 3547 REQUESTED

## SALUTE TO YOUTH PROGRAM SET FOR MAY 24

### ENTERTAINMENT, AWARDS TO BE HELD AT HERZL SCHOOL

The second annual Salute To Youth program, sponsored by GLCC's Ladies' Auxiliary will take place May 24 at Herzl School Auditorium, 3711 W. Douglas Blvd., beginning at 3:30 P.M. A full program of singing, dancing, gymnastics and other entertainment are planned for this gala affair. Highlighting the celebration will be the crowning of teenage boy and girl as King and Queen.

A panel of students from Marshall High School, Harold Hites and Dorothy L. Taylor; from Farragut, Iraeue Terrell and Janice Vala; from Harrison, Betty Rosenberg and George Ciz; and from Providence, Rita Wilson will compete for cash scholarships/prizes based on discussion of "Who Is A Good Citizen?" These students were chosen on the basis of out-scholarship and community relations achievements.

Judges for the event are Mrs. Sophie Reiffel, School Superintendent, District 8; Joseph Rotichaux, Mayor's Youth Commission, Alfred Prejean, Chicago Urban League and a representative from the Illinois Youth Commission. Presentation of the awards will be made by Mrs. Rachel Ridley of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations.



Members of the Program Committee of the Auxiliary planning for the "Salute To Youth" program are standing (l. to r.) Mrs. Sarah Moore, Mrs. Bessie Mack, Mrs. Julia Fairfax, Mrs. Willie Mae Harris. Seated are (l. to r.) Mrs. Helma Hart, Mrs. Minnie Condit, Mrs. Leonard Madden and Mrs. Madeline Evans, chairwoman. The affair is planned for May 24.

Entertainment features will include the Boy's Choral Group from Marcy Center, dance groups from the Franklin Park Fieldhouse, the Midwest Community Orchestra and the Douglas Park Fieldhouse dance group. Miss Priscella Brooks will present vocal selections.

Admission is free to the Public.

### GLCC CLEAN-UP CONTEST BEGINS "OPERATION PRIDE"

GLCC's Home Improvement Contest, was begun with many block clubs and organizations planning extensive improvements according to Walter Welton, Chairman of the Committee. Prizes totaling \$500 are being offered to participants who have made outstanding property improvements during 1959.

Cash Prizes are being offered in the following categories:

Home Owner—three prizes, \$50, \$25 and \$10.

Vacant Lots—three prizes, \$50, \$25 and \$10.

Block Clubs—three prizes \$50, \$25 and \$10.

Tenants—three prizes, \$50, \$25 and \$10.

In addition there will be 32 honorable mention prizes of \$5 each.

Prizes will be awarded for such improvements as new paint jobs on houses or garages, new lawns or flower gardens, repaired sidewalks, porches and fences. Vacant lots turned into playgrounds may be entered in the competition and entire blocks which have been cleaned up and beautified.

Final judging will be done in late August by a of judges from outside Lawndale. The awards ceremony will be held in September.

Persons desiring additional information may call the GLCC at VA 6-3226.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 14—Young Adults of GLCC, 7:30 P.M., Walnut Room, Sears YMCA.

May 24—"Salute to Youth", 3:30 P.M., Herzl School 3711 W. Douglas Blvd., Public Invited. See P.1 for details.

May 26—GLCC Board of Directors, 12:15 P.M., George Williams Room, Sears YMCA.

June 30—Young Adults of GLCC Talent Show, see June News Notes for details.

## "SO YOUR'RE BUYING A HOME"

The Greater Lawdale Community stands today perilously poised on the edge of growth and beauty or decay and ruin. Homes are swiftly changing hands in Lawdale, and the manner in which they change hands will determine the direction of this growth or decay.

Should the people act in a common-sense manner and make sure that property sales are made honestly and fairly, everybody—seller, buyer and the community will benefit.

Should they become panicked and sell to unscrupulous real estate speculators who are bent on making as much money as possible regardless of the consequences to the community, the whole community and the new residents will suffer.

Let us ask ourselves how this action takes place? All up and down the streets of Lawdale today, fast talking men are urging white families to move and to sell their homes immediately. What people do not realize is that by so doing they are unwittingly participating in the most destructive practice any community in a transition stage has known. Speculators operate schemes to defraud people of millions of dollars and the beginning of this scheme is the purchase of property from Lawdale property owners.

When a property is purchased for the least possible sum in view of threats that "you won't be able to get more for your property if you wait", it is sold to families on a small down payment and on monthly "contract payments" in fantastic amounts.

These payments are planned at three to five times the honest value of the property with the intention that the buyers will not be able to sustain these high payments. Buyers will default and lose their homes. This happens over and over again so that homes in Lawdale become a steady source of making more and more money through this means.

These high prices simply mean that monies needed for community purposes are used to enrich the speculator and impoverish the community.

### Next month—Men Who Aid the Speculator

GLCC HOUSING ZONING SCORE BOARD APRIL 1, to APRIL 30, 1959		
Complaints in Court . . . . . 48		
Complaints Currently under investigation by GLCC . . . . . 48		
	TO DATE	LAST 90 DAYS
Complaints received . . . . .	392	15
Inspections by GLCC . . . . .	305	13
Inspections by Dept. Buildings . . . . .	131	3
Complaints closed by GLCC . . . . .	129	3
Complaints closed by Dept. of Buildings . . . . .	97	2



Meeting at the home of Mrs. Ruth Wilson to finalize plans for the "Guide To Your" nearest program book and standing (l to r) Mrs. Georgia Day, Mrs. Ruth Wilson, Mrs. Marjorie Colburn, Mrs. Alpha Lucas and Mrs. Alice Nelson. Sitting (l to r) are Mrs. Julianne Baker, Director of GLCC's community organization services, Mrs. Jessie Holland and Mrs. Ruth Wilson, auxiliary president.

## GLCC HOME IMPROVEMENT CLINIC HELD MAY 12

Lawdallers planning spring home improvements were able to get first hand information at the Greater Lawdale Conservation Commission's Home Improvement Clinic held on May 12, at Sears YMCA. "It was a great success," commented Walter Welkom, Chairman of the Committee. "It was the first time the Commission had tried to arrange such a service, and it was successful! We are convinced from this experience that we will try it again."

Free advice and suggestions on how to plan home improvements were available. Bathroom and kitchen remodeling displays, building material contractors, leading institutions, landscape gardeners—just to mention a few of the 17 representatives who displayed the newest in building material and designs.

"The timing of the Clinic was excellent," commented Mr. Welkom because "Operation Pride," GLCC's Home Improvement Contest was able to help many get a head start on their improvements. The Contest is offering \$500 in prizes for the best property improvements made during 1959.

Among those who participated were Sears Roebuck & Co.; the Illinois Bell Telephone Co.; the Commonwealth Edison Co.; Thompson Electrical contractors, Arnold L. Larsen, architect; and Eldred Green and William Beaudry, landscape gardeners.

In addition, the United Wallpaper Co., Malkov Lumber Co., Certified Siding and Roofing Co., the Home Improvement & Flood Control Corp.; Axelrod Roofing and Tuckpointing Co. and Berland Paint Co. displayed their products.

Representatives from Consumers National Bank, Sears Bank & Trust Co. and the First Federal Savings and Loan Assn., lending institutions, were on hand to explain details of obtaining loans for improvements.



A small cut but hot heart beat examined by Roberto Tames, intern at St. Anthony's Hospital where several hundred medical examinations were given during Lawndale's Health Week, April 11-15. The program was sponsored by GLCC with cooperating agencies. Nurses aid Phyllis Sebastian gives the Tames a helping hand.

More than 2000 children from Gregory School, 3705 W. Polk St. paraded in their annual Lawndale clean-up parade. Ending the festive occasion was the crowning of a king and queen who migrated over the parade. The Holy Mary Church band supplied the music. Miss Lorraine Kevyn was program chairman and was assisted by Gregory PTA.

Curious onlookers are trying to guess the weight of this little fellow at one of the agencies where examinations took place. In all 1790 examinations were given at Mercy Center, Boys Brotherhood Republic, St. Anthony's Hospital, Sears YMCA and by over 50 private doctors and dentists.

## LAWNDALE BEGINS ITS CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN



## THE PRESIDENT SAYS:



CLAUDE J. PECK, JR.

Recently I wrote on behalf of the GLCC Board of Directors to Hubert L. Will, Chairman of the Chicago Commission on Youth Welfare, urging the agency to consider the Lawndale area (area 29) as one of the five areas for additional help in the Mayor's new program on

youth activities. GLCC is strongly convinced that a new, vigorous city sponsored program is required to cope with existing youth problems. The many youth organizations and social agencies in Lawndale are doing an excellent and enthusiastic job of working in the various fields of youth activities but no one citizen, organization or social agency is in a position to carry through a comprehensive coordinating program. Besides working in the fields of health, youth employment and curriculum problems, the Chicago Commission on Youth Welfare could well emphasize to great advantage the specific areas of (1) street

gang leadership; (2) case work with individual children and families with referrals coming from the schools themselves; and (3) developing a program which would encourage young people to stay in school in order to better prepare themselves for better jobs. This is being done by the Chicago Urban League but the need must be stressed by all agencies.

These, then, are some of the fields in which the Mayor's program could help in coordinating public and private services. I feel that it would also tend to develop greater participation by the residents and by professionally trained staffs. It would also offer a means by which advice and help could be obtained to strengthen the operations of the present youth services.

GLCC is working in certain areas where it is best qualified but it is not in a position to be the community organizer in the field of youth activities. Therefore, I have urged that this area be designated to receive additional help from the Chicago Commission on Youth Welfare.

C. J. Peck, Jr.

*GLCC is delighted to announce that word has been received that Area 29 has been approved for additional help.*

## BRIEFS

**FROM THE SCHOOLS...**The May 14th Ferragut PTA meeting heard Pres. Grace McCleary's annual report and reports from PTA convention delegates. Mother's Day was fittingly celebrated with refreshments and a small gift for each member attending says Secy. Mrs. Bernice Mical. **Among the 25 west side schools** whose safety patrols had perfect records last year Bryant, Chalmers, Herzl, King, Masley, Shepard, and Sumner...**Lawson students** celebrated their spring clean-up campaign by cleaning and planting a garden area on the south side of the school, cooperating with the GLCC on assembly programs with a clean-up emphasis, and by having a parade and rally on the school grounds...**Wason** celebrated its Arbor Day program on April 24...**Howard PTA** is busy planning a Fashion & Talent Show for May 22...**Plimondon Fathers' Night** was celebrated May 6 with a student play for Clean-up Week, President Mrs. Don Bennett, reports...**Six Lawndale Students** at **Marshall High** ranked in the upper 10% of their class. They are Bettye Smith, Shirley Biddle, Robert McInnis, Beverly Botta, Frankie Dixon, and Lois Newton...**THE LIBRARY, Douglas Branch, 3553 W. 13th St.** will begin its Summer Reading Club at 2 PM on June 30. Any

child may belong who can read, says Mrs. Josephine Glover, children's librarian at the Douglas Branch. Six books read during the summer will entitle the child doing the reading to a Reading Certificate to be awarded in September...Guest Chorus and Soloists were the feature of the Third Annual Musical Anniversary of the Senior Choir of **Ebel Chapel A.M.E. Church** from April 30 through May 3, Delores Glover, President reports...**The 1500 Tripp Elock Club** climaxed their membership drive with a health movie at their last meeting and 15 new members. Pres. Gaston Cook writes...Congratulations to the **1660, 1800, 1900 S. Troy Elock Club**. Winners of top prizes in GLCC contests in previous years, members of the group continue to beautify their area by planting shrubbery and white washing trees...**Two basketball teams**, one from Marcy Center and one from BBR, were awarded trophies for winning tournaments held at these centers. The awards were presented at a banquet held at Marcy on April 17th...**Franklin Park Fieldhouse** is the site of a new Fishing Club open to boys age 10 and up. They meet at the Fieldhouse every Saturday at 10:30 am. Mr. Wilke, Fieldhouse Director, invites those wishing to take part in the forthcoming Water Carnival and Beauty Contest to contact him there.

## GREATER LAWNDALE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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